Title: Digging Deeper into the Biomes

Class period: 50 minutes

Goal/ Purpose: Each student is creating PPT slides and learning more about each of the biomes by researching one individually and listening to peers present on the others.

Abstract: Students will be spending a total of 3 class periods on this project, (50 minutes each). If block scheduling, timing could be rearranged. Students are given two blocks in the media center to work with their groups and research an assigned biome to then create a collective PPT to present to the class during the 3rd class period. Each student is responsible for creating 2-4 slides before combining with their group members so that each student is responsible for using PPT and harnessing these skills.

Student prior knowledge: An introduction to the biomes and what they are can be useful in this case, but is not necessary. Students must also have at least one student per group that is familiar with using PowerPoint.

Objective(s): SWBAT

\* Identify the different biomes

\*Explain why there are different climate zones

\*Rationalize what kinds of animals and plants belong in each biome

MAFS/NGSSS:

SC.912.E.7.4

Summarize the conditions that contribute to the climate of a geographic area, including the relationships to lakes and oceans.

WL.K12.IH.4.6

Formulate and deliver a presentation on an assigned topic using multimedia resources to support the presentation.

Engage: (5 minutes)

Explain project to students. Assign their groups and instruct them to sit together in computer lab. Give them project handout and read through it with them so they know what they are responsible for upon entering the room. Assign biomes to each group including estuary. 3-4 students per group.

Groups will be chosen and assigned based upon having at least two students that are familiar with PPT per group. The students will be asked to raise their hands if they are comfortable using PPT and I will assign groups that way.

Explore: (45 minutes)

Take students to computer lab. When there, remind them to sit with their designated groups. Students will have the remainder of the period to research their respected biome and begin creating PPT slides.

Evaluate and Summary:

Research sheet for the day filled out and completed

Resources:

Computers, handout below

NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**BIOME RESEARCH PROJECT!**

Group Members:

Assigned BIOME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Here are some suggested sites to start with:

<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/glossary/gloss5/biome/> <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Experiments/Biome/>

<http://kids.nceas.ucsb.edu/biomes/>

<http://users.rcn.com/jkimball.ma.ultranet/BiologyPages/B/Biomes.html>

YOUR TASK:

COMPUTER LAB DAY 1:

* Visit sites and write down information you find about your biome on this worksheet (on the back as well)
* Feel free to include more than what is requested below, this is to guide your research
* Include graphs and pictures. Be creative! But be sure to include everything listed below
* Each group member will be responsible for creating **2-4** slides on your biome and each group is to make **9** slides
* Remember your group will have **5** minutes to present all your slides on THURSDAY in class
* Your slides are to be emailed to Ms. Barrett ([rbarrett525@ufl.edu](mailto:rbarrett525@ufl.edu)) by the end of the class period on WEDNESDAY or saved to class Dropbox folder

Climate:

Average rainfall per month (Climatogram could be useful for this):

Location

Elevation

Common animals and plants found

Other interesting facts!

Chart below is for during presentations: students will fill in as peers present (PDF File)

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**Biome Project Rubric**

1. **You will be assigned one of the following**: (Tundra, Taiga, Grassland, Desert, Tropical rain forest, Temperate rain forest, or Estuaries)
2. **Describe your assigned biome (here are things you are expected to include)**:
   1. Climate (temperature, precipitation patterns, average rainfall, climatogram)
   2. Animals/ Plants (What are common organisms found there? Common crops, plants, etc)
   3. Elevation
   4. Other interesting facts
3. **Include a map/location:** 
   1. Where your biome is located on the earth (similar to where you colored your map during class)
4. **Project Timeline:**
   1. Day 1: Introduce project, review goals, research in computer lab (Tuesday 2/17/15)
   2. Day 2: Assign roles in groups for slide topics, Create your PPT slides, Combine slides with group members, EMAIL TO MS. BARRETT by end of period (Wednesday 2/18/15)
   3. Day 3: PPT due- be prepared to share with class, you should have the following prepared: (Thursday/ Friday 2/19/15)
      1. Slides including all of the following:
         1. Map of location
         2. Climatogram\* (if possible, unless otherwise noted, your group is required)
         3. Explanation of climate: precipitation and temperature
         4. Elevation
         5. Example animals/ plants found
         6. Any other interesting facts
      2. In your email to Ms. Barrett with your slides you **must** specify which group member created what slides
      3. Grade yourselves before you present, to be turned in after you present, what you believe your final presentation earned
5. **Grading of project:** **This project is worth 100 points, broken down as follows:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Criterion*** | ***Points*** | ***Self Check*** |
| 1. Wise use of in-class work time | 10 |  |
| 2. Group work (slides combined, sent in on time, and include slide creator descriptions) | 20 |  |
| 3. Map of location | 10 |  |
| 4. Depiction of climate including temperature and precipitation | 10 |  |
| 5. Elevation described | 10 |  |
| 6. Example animals and plants | 10 |  |
| 7. Included other interesting facts | 5 |  |
| 8. Creativity | 5 |  |
| 9. Even contribution to final PPT (2-4 slides/ student) | 10 |  |
| 10. Presentation: all group members participated | 10 |  |
| **Total** | **100** |  |